

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please cancel claims 44-50 and 52-54 without prejudice or disclaimer.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the claims

Claims 1-30 (Cancelled)

Claim 31. (Currently amended): A diagnostic reagent for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection comprising a solid phase sensitized with a mixture of a genetic recombinant HCV antigen and synthesized HCV antigens which comprise core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 32 (Previously presented) The diagnostic reagent of claim 31, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is an HCV non-structural region proteins.

Claim 33 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 31, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is NS3 antigen.

Claim 34 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 31, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of HCV non-structural region proteins and HCV structural region proteins.

Claim 35 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 31, wherein the solid phase is directly sensitized with the genetic recombinant HCV antigen.

Claim 36 (Currently amended): A diagnostic reagent for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection comprising a solid phase sensitized with a mixture of a genetic recombinant HCV antigen

and one or more synthesized HCV antigens, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is conjugated with a carrier protein.

Claim 37 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 38 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of HCV non-structural region proteins and HCV structural region proteins.

Claim 39 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen comprises core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 40 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the carrier protein and the synthesized HCV antigen are present at a ratio of about 1:3 to 1:20 (carrier protein: synthesized HCV antigen).

Claim 41 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the carrier protein is a water-soluble protein.

Claim 42 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 41, wherein the water-soluble protein is selected from the group consisting of BSA, ovalbumin and hemocyanin.

Claim 43 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is conjugated with a carrier protein.

Claims 44-50 (Cancelled)

Claim 51 (Currently amended): ~~[[A]] The diagnostic reagent for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection comprising a solid phase sensitized with a genetic recombinant HCV antigen and one or more synthesized HCV antigens of claim 31,~~ wherein the solid phase is carrier particles.

Claims 52-54 (Cancelled)

Claim 55 (Previously presented): The diagnostic reagent of claim 51, wherein the carrier particle is selected from the group consisting of polystyrene latex particle, copolymer latex particle, erythrocyte and gelatin particle.

Claim 56 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 36, wherein the solid phase is carrier particles.

Claim 57 (New): The diagnostic reagent of claim 56, wherein the carrier particles are selected from the group consisting of polystyrene latex particle, copolymer latex particle, erythrocyte and gelatin particle.